・結構面白いぜ・アタシの人生・
Candy
鉄腕ガール
Girl professional baseball league foundation.
1945. Japan is defeated and impoverished. For the people, however, the outlook is positive and the future holds hope -- society will now recognize the rights and personality of each and every individual. The U.S.A. has decreed an end to the abuse of women and their rights. And so now, women will finally act and jump on the wave of the times.
9
高橋ツトム
MORNING KC

鉄腕ガール
TETSUWAN GIRL
TSUTOMU TAKAHASHI
高橋ツトム
9

モーニング
KC 813
講談社

9784063288032

雑誌 42663-03

ISBN4-06-328803-X

C9979 ¥570E (0)

1929979005702

モーニングKC 講談社
定価：本体570円(税別)

金剛番外地

9

高橋ツトム

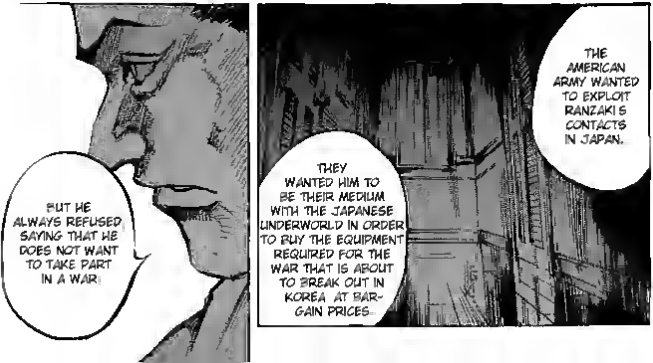
Candys
完結編
6
ボンボンコミックス

SFX: FUUU

GAME 84
The New Beginning

...WHY DID THE AMERICAN ARMY LEAVE HIM FREE TO MOVE UNTIL HE ESCAPED?
RATHER THAN REDUCE HIM TO THAT STATE, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF THEY KILLED HIM RIGHT AWAY. THAT WAY MRS. TOME WOULD HAVE BEEN LESS SHOCKED
IT'S NOT FOR ME TO SAY, BUT...

EVEN I FEEL SICK.
IT COULDN'T HAVE GONE WORSE THAN THIS!
W-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!


BUT HE ALWAYS REFUSED SAYING THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO TAKE PART IN A WAR.
THEY WANTED HIM TO BE THEIR MEDIUM WITH THE JAPANESE UNDERWORLD IN ORDER TO BUY THE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED FOR THE WAR THAT IS ABOUT TO BREAK OUT IN KOREA AT BARGAIN PRICES.
THE AMERICAN ARMY WANTED TO EXPLOIT RANZAKI'S CONTACTS IN JAPAN.

IF HE HAD OFFERED HIS COLLABORATION TO THE AMERICAN ARMY RIGHT AWAY AND GOT TOGETHER WITH YOUR LITTLE SISTER, HE COULD HAVE LED A PEACEFUL LIFE.
WHAT IRONY! HE'S REACTED JUST THE OPPOSITE OF MRS TOME...
YOU DON'T DESERVE TO STAY ALIVE
AS YOU COMMITTED A SERIOUS CRIME BY HURTING ONE OF OUR SOLDIERS
SFX: SFRUZ
EVEN IF YOU'RE SAYING YOU AGREE TO COLLABORATE, IT'S TOO LATE NOW
THE WAR IS ABOUT TO START

WE'LL SEND AN ELECTRIC SHOCK THROUGH YOUR BRAIN...
...TO PREVENT OTHER PEOPLE FROM EXTRACTING THE INFORMATIONS YOU HAVE IN YOUR MEMORY...

UGH!
AAAGH!
AH AH AH

ANY MORE AND HE COULD DIE.
IT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY.
AAH!
WELL LET'S SAY THAT I'M INTERESTED IN STUDYING HIS BRAIN BEFORE IT GETS DESTROYED
BUT OUR ORDERS ARE TO CONTINUE WITHOUT HARMING HIS LIFE...
HEY...
H...

THERE IS NO MAN LUCKIER THAN ME.

I'M LOVED BY THE BEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD, AND SHE GIVES ME THE LIGHT.
MINE IS A WONDERFUL LIFE THAT PEOPLE LIKE YOU WON'T EVER BE ABLE TO HAVE NO MATTER WHAT DESPERATE EFFORT YOU PUT IN
YOU ENVY ME TO DEATH, DON'T YOU?!

HUSH
ZWEEP
HUSH

I APOLOGIZE BECAUSE I HAVE LEFT YOU AT THE MERCY OF FATE, UNTIL THEY TURNED YOU...
INTO AN EMPTY SHELL!
RUSH
RUSH

YOU LOST A FINGER FOR ME!
SORRY!

AND I APOLOGIZE BECAUSE I GOT MARRIED...
TO AN AMERICAN!

SORRY!

SPLOSSSSH

IF I, THE SUN, AM NOT SURE OF MYSELF...
...YOU, THE MOON WOULD ALSO FADE AWAY...

<I'P.
<I'P.
THERE IS NO WOMAN LUCKIER THAN ME...

...BECAUSE I'M LOVED BY A MAN LIKE YOU...

I WON'T PART FROM YOU EVER AGAIN.
WE'LL BE TOGETHER FOREVER.

SFX: GRA

...AND EVERY-THING WILL END IN AN INSTANT ...
DRINKING THIS...

ああっ

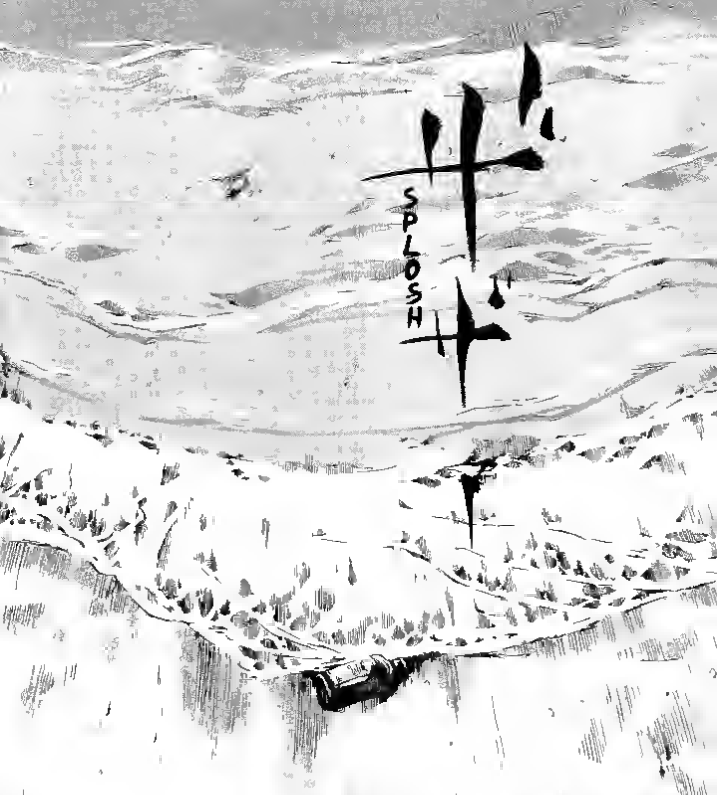
COME...
...LET'S GO!

SFX: SSSSSSH
SFX: PLOSH
SFX: PLOSH

GAME84 END

...WHAT A TROUBLE!
WHAT...

RANZAKI AND THE KAMIKAZE GIRL...
...HAVE ESCAPED...
BRO-THER!



GAME 85

Making Noise...

SFX SSSSSSSS

SFX: SS

SFX: SSH

SHEA
HEY!

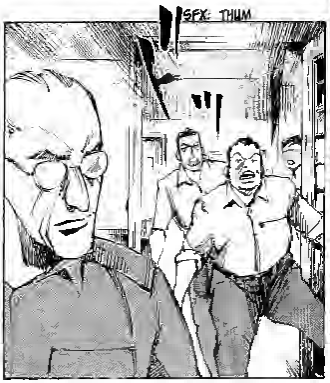
STILL BREATH-ING

SFX. SSSH
WHO IS THIS?!
SFX SSSS

WHAT THE HELL DID YOU TWO DO?!
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
I AM ALIVE?!
WHAT?!
KATSUMI!!
THE MAN...?!
HOW IS THE MAN?

N...
...NO, HE'S COLD...

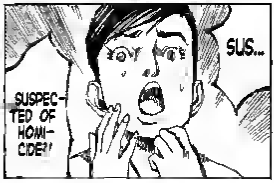
ANSWER! DID YOU TWO TRY TO SUICIDE TOGETHER!!
YOU TWO ENTERED THE SEA WITH YOUR HANDS TIED?!
HEY!
SAY SOME-THING!
SFX SSSSSH

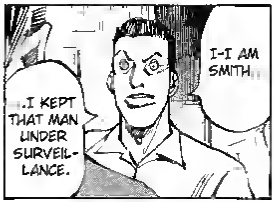

SFX: THUM

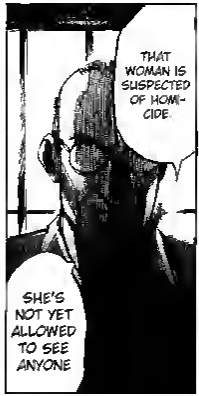
VRRRRRRRRRR

WE MUST SEE HER!
WHERE'S TOME KANO?!

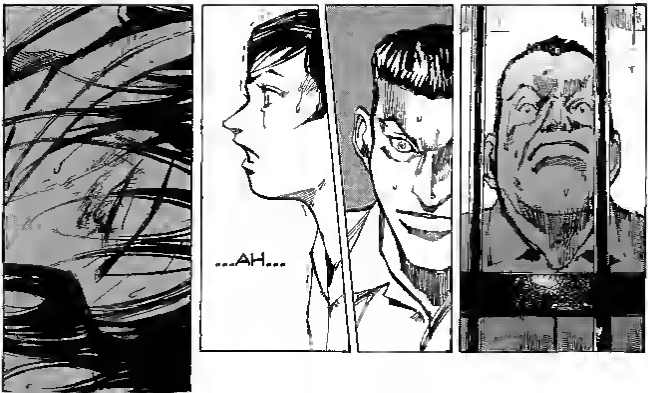
I TAKE ALL RESPONS-ABILITY. LET US SEE HER!


SUS...
SUSPEC-TED OF HOMI-CIDE?!


I-I AM SMITH.
I KEPT THAT MAN UNDER SURVEIL-LANCE.


THAT WOMAN IS SUSPECTED OF HOMI-CIDE.
SHE'S NOT YET ALLOWED TO SEE ANYONE

PLEASE!
I'LL GIVE YOU A FEW MINUTES.
TAP
TAP
TAP
WE HAVE HAD SOME PROBLEMS WITH HER. WE COULDN'T GET HER TO CALM DOWN... SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO DIE WITH HIM.
SHE IS STILL IN A CONFUSED STATE.


...AH...

MRS TOME...
...WHY DID YOU DO SUCH A THING...?
WHAT AN IMBECILE!
YOU ARE A BAD ELEMENT!
YOU HAVE TOTALLY DISAP-POINTED ME!

KATSUMI RANZAKI
1924-1950
HERE LIES

WHY DID YOU SAY YOU HAD KILLED HIM WITH YOUR OWN HANDS?
WHY DID YOU SAY YOU WANT TO BE SENTENCED TO DEATH?

EVERYTHING WE HAVE BUILT IS CRUMBLING...
MRS. TOME...

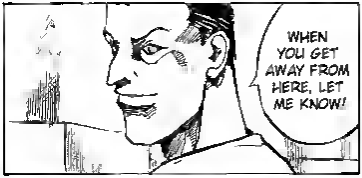
PLEASE DO NOT REFUSE TO EAT.

...ARE WAITING FOR YOUR RETURN...

Dear Mrs. Tome Kano
From Haruka Tenjou
ALL OF US...

I THINK TO SET OFF TO-MORROW.
OKAY.

LISTEN YOU SERIOUSLY STILL WANT TO WAIT?
SHE DOESN'T EAT NOR SPEAK TO ANYONE FOR A MONTH NOW.


WHEN YOU GET AWAY FROM HERE, LET ME KNOW!

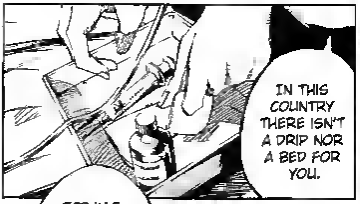
I HAVE NO IDEA WHEN THAT WILL BE...

DON'T YOU THINK THAT THERE IS NOTHING LEFT TO DO FOR HER?
SHE DOESN'T EVEN DEIGN OF A GLANCE AT THE LETTERS THAT YOU'RE WRITING HER EVERY DAY
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HER.
THE BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WITH THE IRON ARM.
SHE IS TOME KANO.

SHE'LL COME BACK FOR SURE.
SHE'LL COME BACK...

HUUUUH
HUUUUH

NOW THAT MANY INJURED SOLDIERS ARE COMING BACK FROM KOREA...
WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO OBTAIN WITH YOUR BEHAVIOR?!


IN THIS COUNTRY THERE ISN'T A DRIP NOR A BED FOR YOU.

TODAY I PROPOSED TO THE DOCTOR TO STOP TO FORCEFULLY KEEP YOU ALIVE.

YOUR RECENT TESTS HAVE REVEALED...

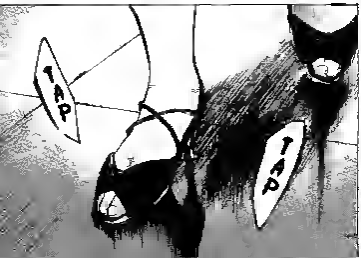
SSSSSE
SSSSSE
BECAUSE OF YOUR WHIMS, YOU'LL JUST END UP KILLING ANOTHER PERSON

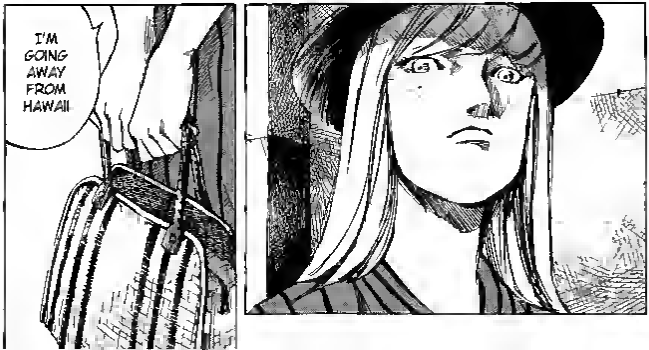
YOU'RE A SINNER!

...THAT YOU'RE EXPECTING A BABY.
SSSSSSE
SSSSSSE
EHHHHS
GAME 85 END

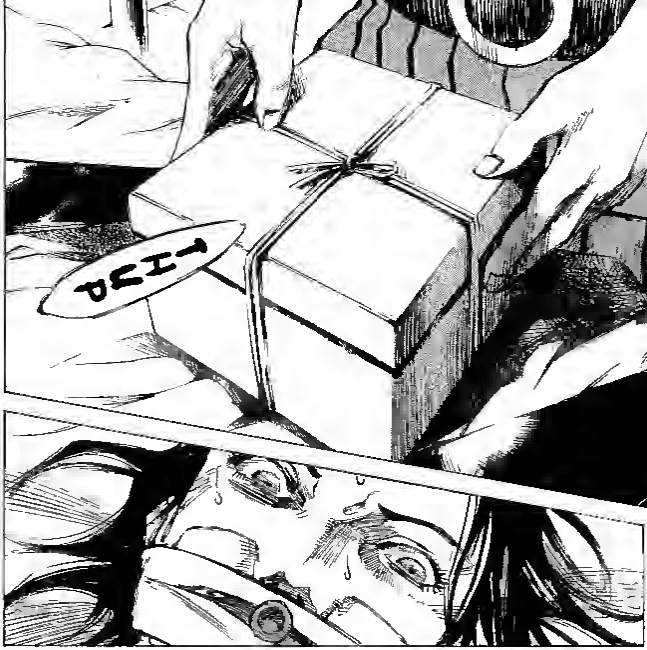
YOU ARE EXPECTING A BABY.

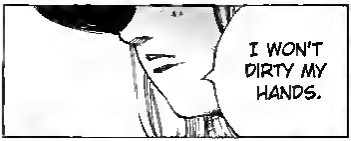
IT'S GERALD'S SON.
GAME 86
Under The Sun That Shines


TAP
TAP


I'M GOING AWAY FROM HAWAII

I HAVE TO TELL GOODBYE TO YOU, TOO...
...FOR-EVER.
NIIIP
HNNNN
HNNNN
HNNNN
HNNNN
WHAT'S WRONG ?!
WHY ARE YOU SO AGITATED?
YOU...
...DON'T WANT TO BE KILLED, RIGHT?!
HNNN
HNNN
SNNK


ヒュー


I WON'T DIRTY MY HANDS.

I THOUGHT OF KILLING YOU MANY TIMES...
...BUT I'VE HEARD THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO END IT ALL BY YOURSELF.

WELL THEN, DIE...
...BY YOURSELF!

GOOD-BYE!
TAP
THIS IS THE FAREWELL GIFT FOR YOU, WHO IS ABOUT TO DIE...
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
ACTUALLY I KNEW...
...THAT MY LOVE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN RECIPROCATED.

I'M REALLY MORTIFIED!

!

UGGH!
UGH!

WHAT ?!
YOU WANT TO SAY SOME-THING?!

GH!
UGH!

UGH! UGGH!
REALLY ?!
DO YOU REALLY MEAN IT?
DO YOU PROMISE NOT TO BITE YOUR TONGUE?
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT?
COME ON, TALK!
...I WANT..
...YOU TO OPEN THAT BOX...

PLEASE!
AL-
RIGHT!
THAT'S IT,
HAVE YOU
SEEN?!

0379175
東京
キャンディーズ
金拾圓

THEY ARE KATSUMI'S!
A SHARE CERTIFICATE OF THE CANDYS...
AND A PICTURE OF ME WITH MCARTHUR
I CAN'T READ THIS! IT'S WRITTEN IN JAPANESE!
AHAHA! NO!
RATTLE
THERE'S A LETTER
I'M OPENING THE ENVELOPE
Mrs. Tome Kano...
LOOK...

I think that I'll ask you to sign this ball, because I am also your biggest fan. I can't renounce the autograph of Japan's most famous pitcher.

Tome... even if you lead a hard life now, you don't have to run away... Don't forget baseball and the enthusiasm that animated the decisive encounter between Japan and America! No other Japanese could have taken on such a challenge. You had been able to because you're you.

If I could meet you again I have so many things to tell you. I would also have an official proposal to make to you...

I can't wait for the day in which I'll be able to see you again.

Katsumi Ranzaki under the sun that shines.

In the event that I couldn't see you again, I've asked Joanna to deliver you this letter.

Now I'm in Hawaii. After the famous decisive encounter between Japan and America, I've been brought here and tortured by the American Army. But here I live quite well. The sea is blue and the sky is always clear. This island is beautiful. If I were to have a stroke of luck and get good income, I'd like to live here with you.

Well... today I've been able to obtain a hardball. They haven't given me anything that could become a weapon, but I'm still in America, a country very favorable towards baseball. They gave it to me without making too much of a fuss.

YOU LET YOUR FEELINGS OUT AT LAST...
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?
DO YOU WANT TO PUT ON THE MUZZLE AGAIN?
...NO...
I W-W...
...I WANT TO GET UP...
OKAY!

PANT
PANT
PANT

A WOMAN WHO TRIES TO DIE AND TAKE HER UNBORN BABY WITH HER IS A DESPICABLE PERSON WHATEVER REASON SHE HAS
IF YOU HAVE THE INTENTION TO BECOME MOTHER..
I'LL GIVE YOU A HAND
PANT
PANT

SFX PANT

PLEASE!

TOME KANO
MRS. TOME!
YOU CAN WAIT FOR ME OR NOT YOU'RE FREE TO CHOOSE!
THE PRISON SENTENCE FOR KILLING YOUR OWN HUSBAND IS THREE YEARS

I'LL BECOME MOTHER.
GAME 86 END

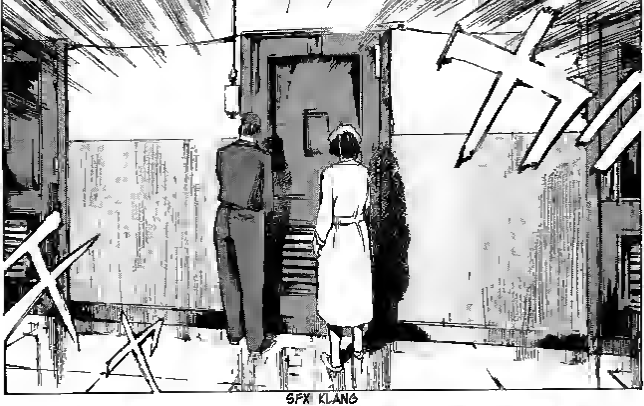
SFX: SSSSH

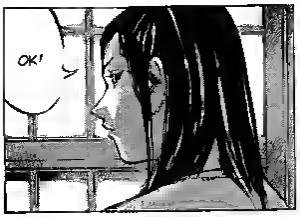
WELL...
...I CAN'T CALM DOWN IF I'M NOT DOING ANY-THING.

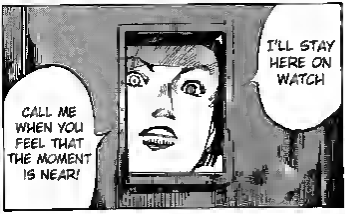
MY GOOD-NESS! YOU'RE STILL WORKING?
YOU'VE ENTERED THE LAST MONTH OF PREGNANCY, I'VE ASKED THE OFFICE TO EXEMPT YOU FROM HEAVY WORKS.

OTHERWISE I'LL FEAR THAT THE SON I HAVE IN MY WOMB COULD BE PUNISHED BY THE HEAVEN.
GAME87
Son

IT'S NORMAL TO FEEL ANXIOUS BEFORE THE FIRST CHILD-BIRTH
DON'T WORRY! EVERYTHING WILL GO WELL
COME!
GO REST FOR TODAY!
I GOT IT, CATHY!
GOOD..
I'LL REST FOR TODAY


SFX KLANG


OK!


I'LL STAY HERE ON WATCH
CALL ME WHEN YOU FEEL THAT THE MOMENT IS NEAR!

SFX TUTUM
JUST A LITTLE MORE!
COME ON!
IF SOMETHING IN THIS WORLD SHOULD EVER MAKE YOU UNHAPPY...
YOU HAVE TO COME OUT SAFE AND SOUND!

...I,
YOUR MOM,
WILL TAKE
CARE OF IT!

OH!
I'M COMING RIGHT AWAY!
SHE WENT INTO LABOR!
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT

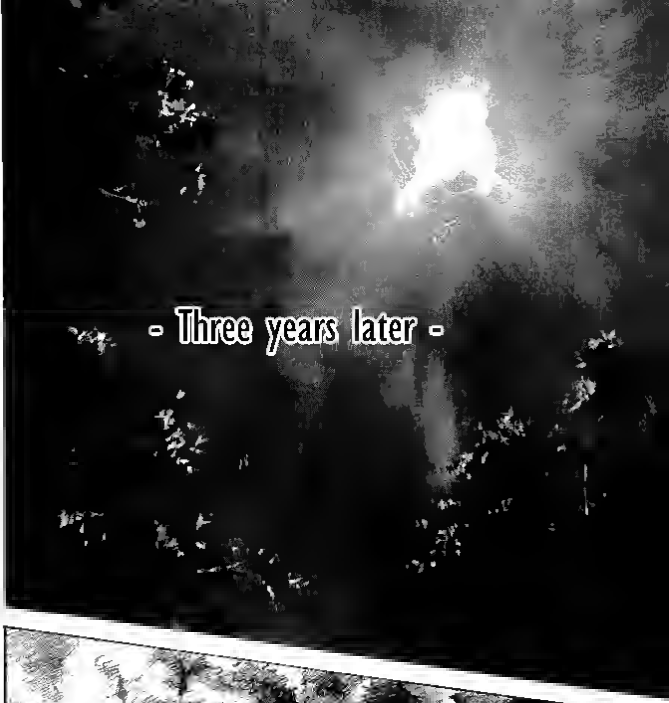
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO ME...
CATHY!
LISTEN WELL TO ME! FIRST OF ALL YOU HAVE TO RELAX YOURSELF!
IF YOU STIFFEN UP, YOU'LL ONLY MAKE THE BIRTH MORE COMPLICATED.

SFX: HANF

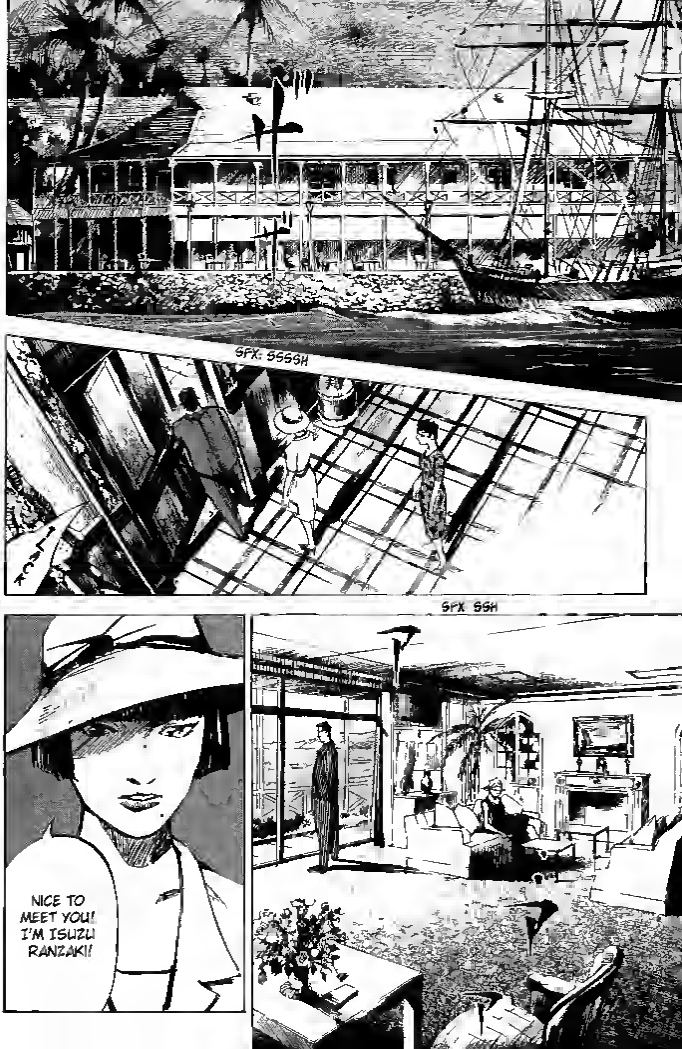
SFX: HANF

PLEASE, KATSUMI!
PROTECT MY CHILD!

THE INNOCENT CHILD THAT IS ABOUT TO BE BORN!
GHAAA


- Three years later -

THEN, COULD YOU TAKE ME TO HIM?
YES!
KATSUMI RANZAK
1924-1950
HERE LIES

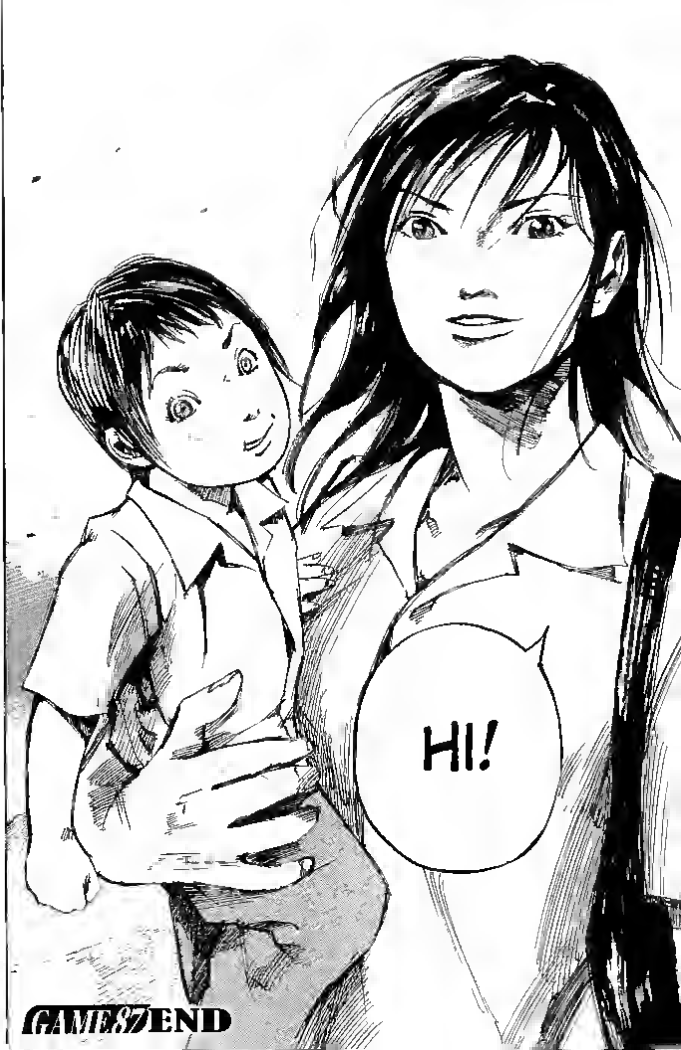

SFX: SSSSH
SFX SSH
NICE TO MEET YOU! I'M ISUZU RANZAK!!

I AM GERALD BANKS.
LET'S GO STRAIGHT TO THE POINT.
YOUR FATHER HELPED ME A LOT IN JAPAN.

I AM THE ONE WHO HAS PARENTAL AUTHORITY OVER OUR SON.
THIS I UNDER-STAND....

...BUT TOME IS ACTUALLY KATSUMI'S WIFE, SO MY SISTER-IN-LAW...
I WANT TO MAKE HER COME BACK TO JAPAN AND LIVE THERE.
BUT THE SON WILL BE HAPPIER IF HE STAYS WITH HIS FATHER.
I'LL BRING UP MY SON AS A WORTHY HEIR OF THE BANKS FAMILY, UNDER MY RESPONSI-BILITY.
I WANT YOU TO UNDER-STAND THIS!

BOTH MOTHER AND SON...
...I'LL NEVER GIVE THEM TO YOU.
DON'T YOU THINK THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG IN YOUR LINES OF REASONING?
WE SHOULD FIRST OF ALL HEAR THE MOTHER'S OPINION
SHE'LL BE SET FREE SOON.



GAME 87 END

TOME!

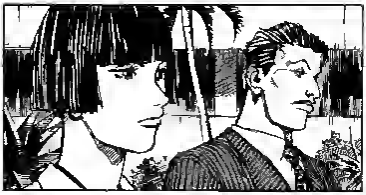
WE HAVE WAITED FOR YOU FOR SO LONG!

GAME 88
Start
THIS IS MY SON RIKUO.

HI!
WE HAVE TO THANK THE WAR!
IT WAS AN EXCEPTIONAL CASE WHERE YOU WERE ALLOWED TO RAISE HIM IN PRISON!
DAN
TAP

IT'S REALLY EXCITING!
THIS IS...
I'LL MAKE SURE THAT YOU'LL LEAD A WONDERFUL LIFE!
...MY SON...!

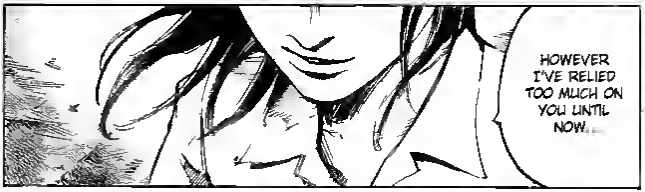
TOME!
CONGRATULATIONS FOR HAVING ENDURED ALL THIS!
BUT NOW YOU CAN RELAX...
ONE MOMENT!
...LET'S GO BACK TO JAPAN!
AS SOON AS MRS. TOME GETS OUT OF PRISON... IMMEDIATELY SHE'S BEING CAUGHT BETWEEN THEM.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
STAY BACK! IT'S NOT YOUR BUSINESS

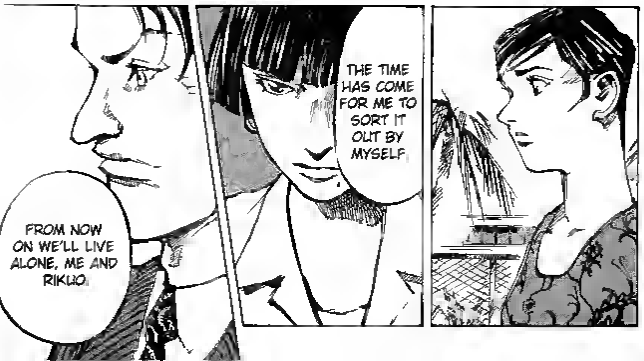


SFX TAP

DASH

I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN.
I MUST THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROPOSALS... INDEED WE HAVE NOWHERE TO GO.


HOWEVER I'VE RELIED TOO MUCH ON YOU UNTIL NOW...

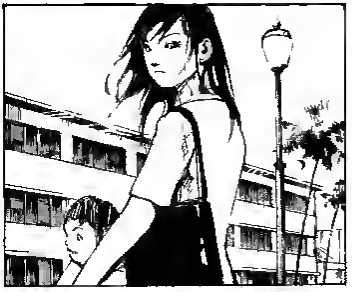

THE TIME HAS COME FOR ME TO SORT IT OUT BY MYSELF.
FROM NOW ON WE'LL LIVE ALONE, ME AND RIKUO.

THIS WILL BE THE START OF A NEW LIFE FOR ME.

THERE'S A STRANGE INSECT!
MOM!
WHERE IS THIS STRANGE INSECT?
LET ME SEE!
LOOK! IT'S HERE!

BY THE WAY, BOSS
...THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE WHO ARE REJOICING AT YOUR RELEASE

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, LET'S POSTPONE THE CONVERSATIONS UNTIL LATER AND GO CELEBRATE!



SFX VROOOO

ISUZU..
I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR COMING AND MEETING ME...
I BELIEVED THAT YOU HATED ME...
BECAUSE I KILLED YOUR DEAR BROTHER
I HAVE ONLY A SISTER LEFT, AND THAT'S YOU.
FOR ME KATSUMI HAS BEEN KILLED BY AMERICA

THIS IS ENOUGH FOR ME.
WE HAVE ARRIVED.
SFX. SKREEE

SFX: RUSSH
RIKUO...
LOOK!

...THEY'RE PLAYING BASEBALL...

THEY'RE ALL...
...MOM'S COMPANIONS!

WHEN I CALLED, NO ONE TURNED ME DOWN.
SHE'S LOVED BY EVERYONE, EVEN IF SHE'S A MURDERER.
MOM'S COMPANIONS?!
YOU WANTED TO COMMIT YOURSELF IN A NEW DECISIVE MATCH BETWEEN JAPAN AND AMERICA, RIGHT?!
BASE-BALL!
BASE-BALL!

GOOD!
THEN I'LL BET OUR FUTURE ON THIS GAME.
IF I LOSE
I'LL OBEY ONE OF YOU, GERALD OR ISUZU!
WHAT ?!
THERE SHE GOES AGAIN WITH HER CRAZY CHALLENGES!
YOU DECIDE, BEFORE THE GAME ENDS!

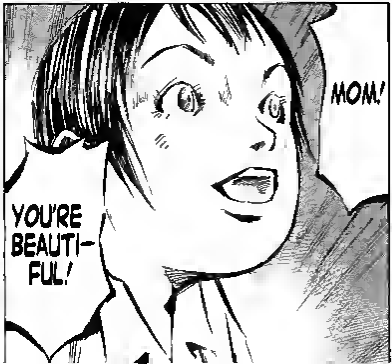
TAKE A GOOD LOOK! I'LL SHOW YOU SOME SURPRISING BALLS!
BUT THIS BEHAVIOR IS REALLY WORTHY OF MRS. TOME
BASEBALL! BASEBALL!
GIRLS!
THE PITCHER IS HERE!
TOME!

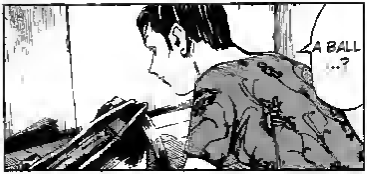
GAME 88 END

BOSS...
UEEE!
YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE!

GAME 89
The End of the War

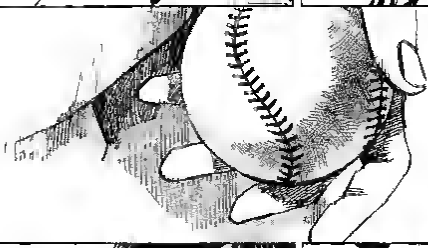
14


MOM!
YOU'RE BEAUTI-FUL!


A BALL ...?

HARUKA!
PICK UP THE BALL IN THE BAG FOR ME!

I'M REALLY FOND OF IT, KATSUMI GAVE IT TO ME.



THE DAY TO COMMIT OURSELVES IN THE GAME THAT WE DREAMED OF SO MUCH HAS FINALLY COME...

THANKS!

ARE YOU READY?
HEY, TOME!
DO WE WANT TO START THE DECISIVE MATCH BETWEEN JAPAN AND AMERICA?
GOOD!
OF COURSE!

SFX ガタ

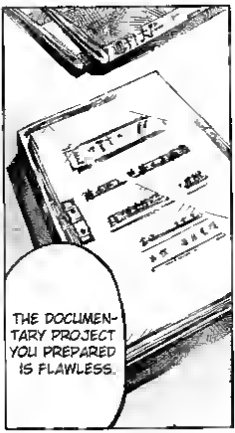
MY
LIFE...

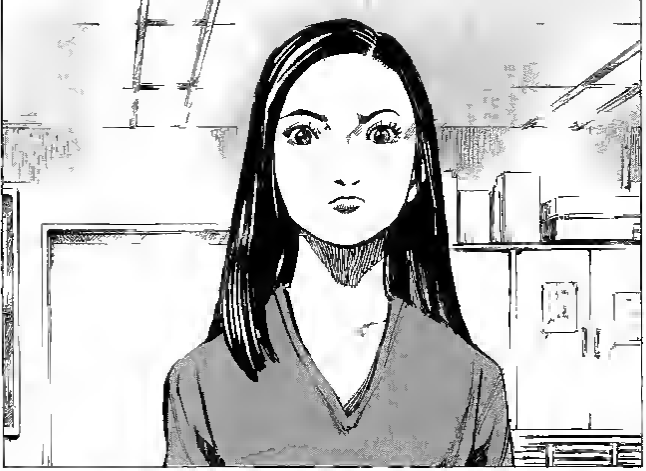
...IS
QUITE
ENJOY-
ABLE!

- Tokyo, 2002 -

BUT...

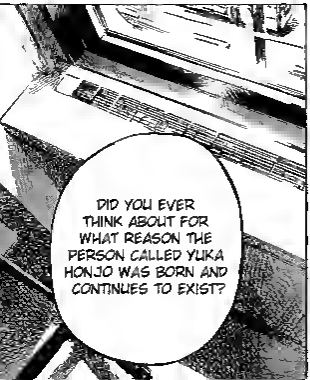
...I DON'T LIKE IT.


THE DOCUMENTARY PROJECT YOU PREPARED IS FLAWLESS.



WELL...

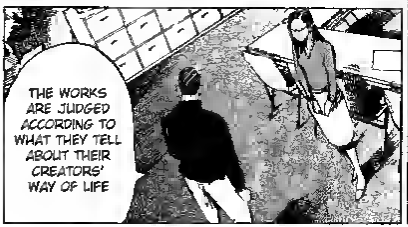
ANYONE WITH A LIVELY MIND CAN PREPARE SUCH A PROJECT.
IT'S BEEN ALREADY FIVE YEARS SINCE YOU STARTED TO WORK IN OUR COMPANY, RIGHT?


DID YOU EVER THINK ABOUT FOR WHAT REASON THE PERSON CALLED YUKA HONJO WAS BORN AND CONTINUES TO EXIST?

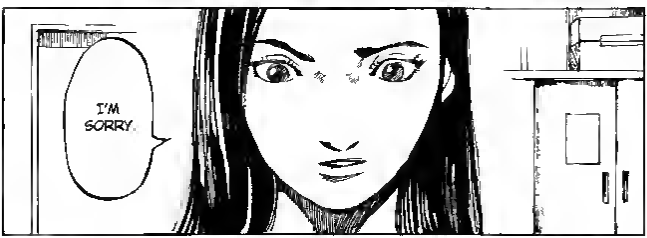
EH?!

DID YOU EVER FACE YOURSELF?

FOR THE PEOPLE WHO CREATE SOMETHING, EVERYTHING BEGINS THE MOMENT THEY FACE THEMSELVES.


THE WORKS ARE JUDGED ACCORDING TO WHAT THEY TELL ABOUT THEIR CREATORS' WAY OF LIFE

NO...


I'M SORRY.

YOU CAN CONTINUE TO GET BY IN OUR COMPANY BY PLAYING SAFE...
. OR YOU CAN BEGIN TAKING RISKS YOU HAVE THESE TWO CHOICES.

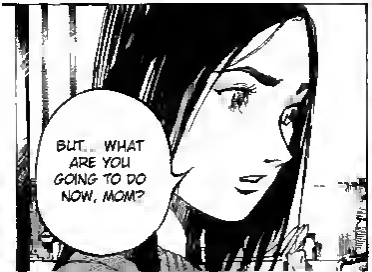
APOLOGIZING WON'T LET YOU CREATE A GOOD PROGRAM.

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU SEEM MORE DEPRESSED THAN USUAL!
NOW NOW!
YOU ALWAYS SAY THE SAME THING!
I'M THINKING OF QUITTING.
BUT THEN IN THE END, YOU NEVER QUIT.
AH, EXCUSE ME A SECOND!
HELLO?
OOH!
MOM...?
EH?!
GRANDMA IS...?!

SIGN. FUNERAL OF THE TORIGOE FAMILY

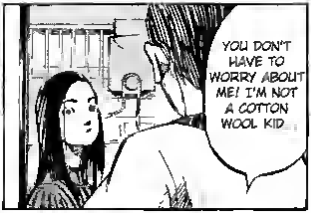
I'M SORRY FOR CAUSING YOU SO MANY TROUBLES
YES! I'M DONE WITH THE FUNERAL! TOMORROW I'LL COME TO WORK.

SHIP
IT'S OK! THERE ARE STILL MANY THINGS TO BE TAKEN CARE OF, RIGHT?!
YUKA! YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME YOU CAN GO BACK TO TOKYO NOW!


BUT... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW, MOM?

NOW THAT GRANDMOTHER IS DEAD, YOU'RE ALL ALONE.

OK!
FOR THE SOCIAL DANCE...?


YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME! I'M NOT A COTTON WOOL KID.

BUT IF YOU'RE STAYING HOME TODAY, COULD YOU PLEASE TIDY UP YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S ROOM?
I'LL USE THE ROOM AS A WARDROBE FOR THE SOCIAL DANCE COSTUMES

AHA... I CAN SMELL GRANNY'S SCENT...!
LRCP
I WONDER WHAT'S INSIDE THIS BOX?
IT'S HEAVY!
THERE!

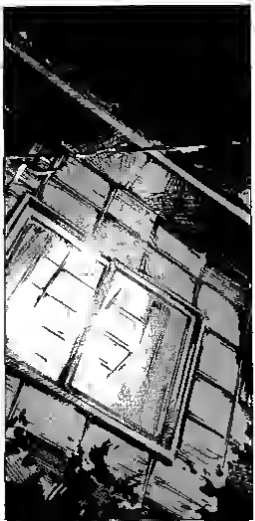
GAME 90
The Great Ace
TOME KANO, THE GREAT ACE

*ALL TOME KANO, THE GREAT ACE

*1953

JULY 23RD OF THE 28TH SHOWA YEAR*, CLEAR SKY. THE DAY OF MRS. TOME'S RELEASE FROM JAIL. I WAS SO MOVED THAT I COULDN'T FIND THE WORDS.

THE PERSON FOR WHICH I LEFT EVERYTHING BEHIND STARTED PITCHING HER BALLS AGAIN.
HER BEAUTY AND HER VITALITY WERE LEFT INTACT...
TODAY, MRS. TOME, OR THE BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WITH THE IRON ARM, GOT UP ON THE PITCHER'S MOUND.



MMM...?! WHAT DOES THIS MEAN...?!
FLAP

YUKA... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOU DIDN'T TIDY UP AT ALL!
HEY MOM!
DO YOU KNOW THE BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WITH THE IRON ARM?
WITH THE IRON ARM...?
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
FROM WHAT I UNDERSTOOD GRANNY WORKED WITH HER IN THE PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S BASEBALL LEAGUE RIGHT AFTER THE WAR
YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, IT SEEMED YOUR GRANDMOTHER SOMETIMES MUTTERED SOMETHING THAT TODAY'S BASEBALL WASN'T MUCH INTERESTING
HERE, LOOK!

THESE ARE ALL RECORDS OF THAT TIME!

AFTER THE WAR SHE WENT TO AMERICA ALONE AND PLAYED AGAINST A MAJOR LEAGUE PLAYER!

ANYWAYS, THE WOMAN WHO IS TALKED ABOUT IN THIS DIARY IS EXTRA-ORDINARY!

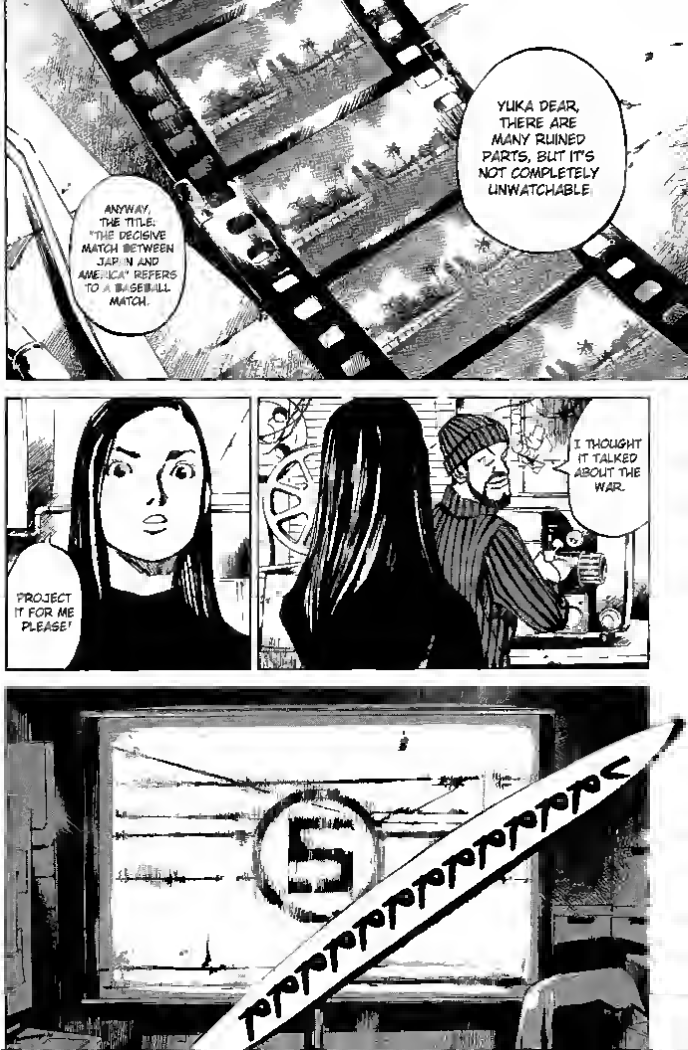
I'M SORRY BUT I HAVE TO GO BACK TO TOKYO
LEND ME THE CAR!
YOU'RE GOING BACK TO TOKYO? BUT IT'S NIGHT ALREADY!

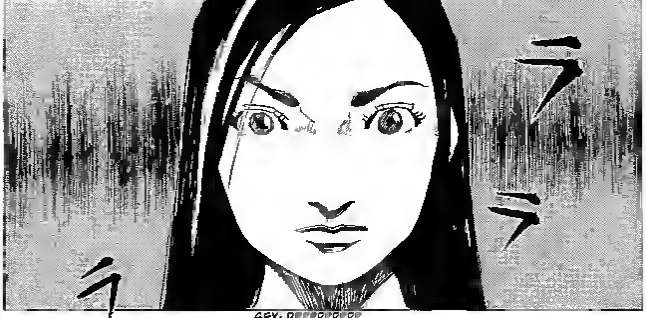
IN THE END SHE KILLED HER OWN HUSBAND WITH POISON.

SFX: VROOOO

SURELY HER STORY WAS SHROUDED BY THE FLOW OF HISTORY
NOBODY KNOWS ABOUT THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A FORMIDABLE WOMAN HERE IN JAPAN

"TOME KANO"... I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE A MAGNIFICENT PROGRAM BY TELLING HER STORY...


YUKA DEAR, THERE ARE MANY RUINED PARTS, BUT IT'S NOT COMPLETELY UNWATCHABLE.
ANYWAY, THE TITLE: "THE DECISIVE MATCH BETWEEN JAPAN AND AMERICA" REFERS TO A BASEBALL MATCH.
I THOUGHT IT TALKED ABOUT THE WAR.
'PROJECT IT FOR ME PLEASE!'
5

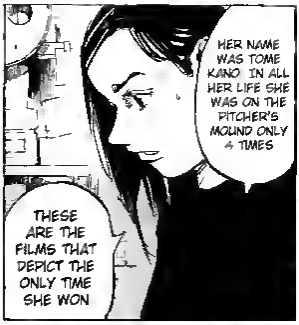


SFX: RRRRRRRRR

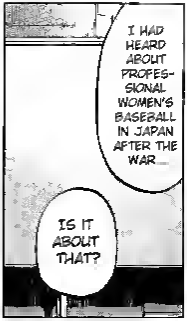
Candy

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
F 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0
C 0 0 1 0 1 2 0 0

SFX KKKKK

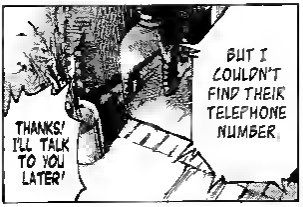

HER NAME WAS TOME KANO. IN ALL HER LIFE SHE WAS ON THE PITCHER'S MOUND ONLY 4 TIMES
THESE ARE THE FILMS THAT DEPICT THE ONLY TIME SHE WON

YES!
THEN THERE WAS A GREAT LEFT-HANDED PITCHER.

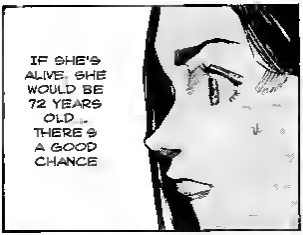

I HAD HEARD ABOUT PROFES-SIONAL WOMEN'S BASEBALL IN JAPAN AFTER THE WAR...
IS IT ABOUT THAT?

AHAHAHAHAHAHAH

EXCUSE ME, COULD YOU PUT THEM ON A TAPE FOR ME?
SURE CAN BE DONE!


BUT I COULDN'T FIND THEIR TELEPHONE NUMBER
THANKS! I'LL TALK TO YOU LATER!

HELLO!
MISS YUKA!
I DID A SEARCH AND I ONLY FOUND ONE KANO FAMILY IN HAWAII
REALLY?!


IF SHE'S ALIVE, SHE WOULD BE 72 YEARS OLD... THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE

EXCUSE ME, HERE IS HONJO
I'D LIKE TO TAKE A TEN DAYS VACATION STARTING TOMORROW
GAME 90 END

SPIKE ROAMER

TOME KANO WAS A WOMAN WHO BLOOMED OUT OF SEASON.
WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL WAS A FLOWER BLOSSOMED AFTER THE WAR BUT WITHOUT BEARING ANY FRUITS...

I HOPE... THAT SHE'S STILL ALIVE!

GAME 91
Field

KANOH

ガラ…

ここ
ここ
ここ

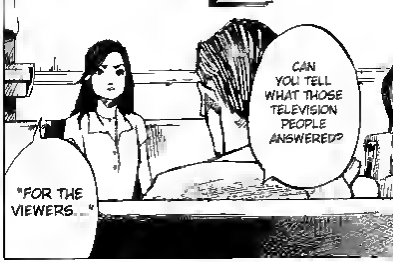
CAN I HELP YOU?

YES!
I-I..
I AM HONJO. I COME FROM JAPAN AND WORK AT TOYO TV
EHM.. ARE YOU BY CHANCE MR RIKUO KANO?
WELL, CALM DOWN A LITTLE...
...COME IN!
I CAME HERE BECAUSE I WANTED TO HEAR THE STORY OF YOUR MOTHER.
COULD YOU GRANT ME SOME OF YOUR TIME?

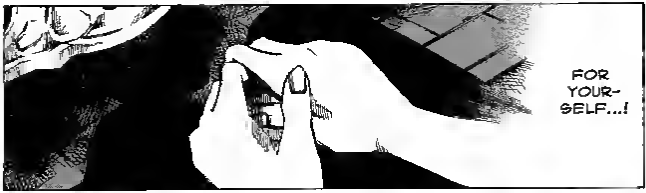
YOU ARE THE GRAND-DAUGHTER OF MRS. HARUKA!
YES!
I SEE!
THEN..
..EHM.. YOUR MOTHER IS STILL ALIVE?
IF...
..IF SHE IS IN GOOD HEALTH, I'D LIKE TO HAVE SOME COMMENTS FROM HER FOR OUR PROGRAM!

JAPAN IS CURRENTLY IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ECONOMIC CRISIS AND SOCIETY IS HELPLESS ..
I'M CONVINCED THAT THE WAY YOUR MOTHER LIVED IS CAPABLE OF TOUCHING THE HEART OF ANYONE WHO'LL WATCHE THE PROGRAM.
THAT TIME MY MOTHER SAID ..
ONCE SHE WAS ASKED TO GIVE AN INTER-VIEW ON AMERICAN TELEVISION, EXACTLY LIKE HOW YOU ARE DOING HOW
CH1
CH1
CH1
TIC
..."AT WHOM DOES THAT PROGRAM AIM?"

.. "IN REALITY YOU DO IT FOR YOURSELF, DON'T YOU?!"


"FOR THE VIEWERS..."
CAN YOU TELL WHAT THOSE TELEVISION PEOPLE ANSWERED?

AFTER LISTENING TO THE ANSWER, MY MOTHER SAID...
EXACTLY!


FOR YOUR-SELF...!

SHE REFUSES THE PROGRAMS THAT TRY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OTHER PEOPLE'S WAY OF LIFE

I WANT TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY OTHER PEOPLE BY DOING THIS WORK!
IT'S TRUE THAT I DO IT FOR MYSELF.
B-BUT ...
...HER STORY REALLY MOVED ME!
I WANT TO MAKE EVERYONE UNDERSTAND THAT EVEN A JAPANESE, MOREOVER A WOMAN, CAN DO ANYTHING IF SHE IS SERIOUSLY COMMITTED!
BUT...
...TOME KANO IS AN EXTRAORDINARY PERSON! NOWADAYS SOMEONE LIKE HER DOESN'T EXIST!

TODAY IS THE DAY SHE DEDICATES TO THE BOYS' BASEBALL SHE'S TIDYING UP THE FIELD
WHY DON'T YOU ASK HER DIRECTLY?
YOU CAN ASK MY MOTHER
EH?!
SHE IS ALIVE?!
YOU JUST SAID IT...
BUT OF COURSE!
AHA-HA!

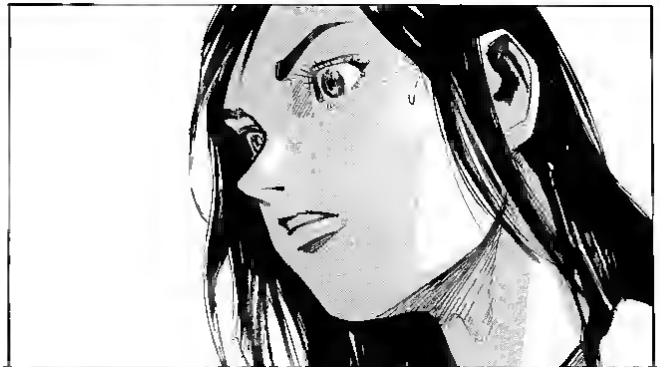
...THAT TOME KANO IS AN EXTRA-ORDINARY PERSON!
SHE ISN'T SOMEONE WHO DIES SO EASILY!

BEYOND THAT WOOD IS THE PLACE THAT MY MOTHER HOLDS DEAR MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE...

REAL-LY?
JESSE, WE COULD HAVE FUN TONIGHT!
BUT IF YOU LOSE TODAY'S GAME YOUR GRANDMOTHER WILL SCOLD YOU AGAIN!
DEAR, THERE IS A VISITOR?
SHE'S THE NIECE OF A PERSON WHO HELPED US A LOT IN THE PAST
YES!
D

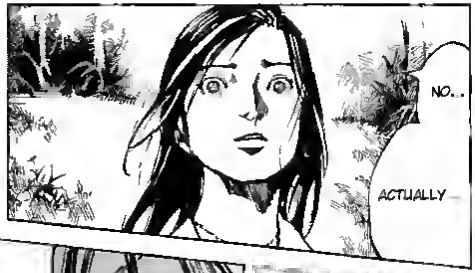
BEYOND
THIS WOOD...

...IS THE
PLACE SHE
HOLDS DEAR
MORE THAN
ANYTHING
ELSE...



GAME21 END

...TOME KANO.
THIS IS THE BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WITH THE IRON ARM...
EHM...
...GOOD MORNING!



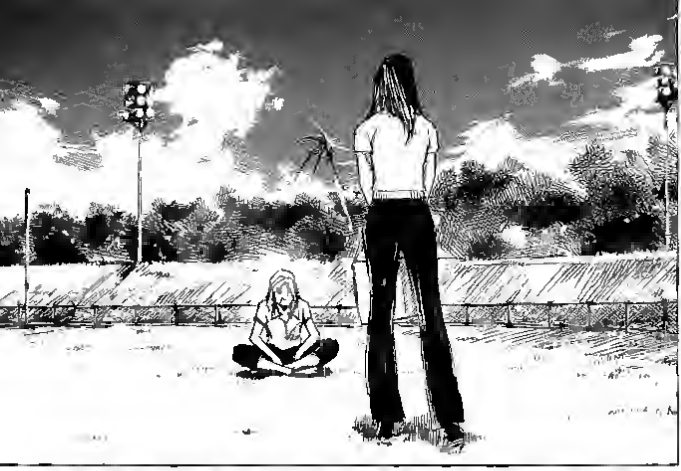
GAME 92
Survive

BALL: TOME KANO, THE GREAT ACE

YES I AM HER GRAND-DAUGHTER YUKA.

HARUKA
...HAS DIED?

YUKA... COME HERE!



A NAP?
I WASN'T SLEEPING AT ALL!

DID I WOKE YOU UP FROM A NAP?

EH?!
BUT... WHAT?

IT'S JUST
I STILL CANNOT SEE

THE SUN...
DID HARUKA LEAD A HAPPY LIFE TILL THE END?
IT WAS WRITTEN IN THE DIARY THAT YOU ARE THE SUN

YOU HAVE TO THANK HER. IF SHE DIDN'T SURVIVE, YOU WOULDN'T EXIST AS WELL

YES... I THINK...

YES!

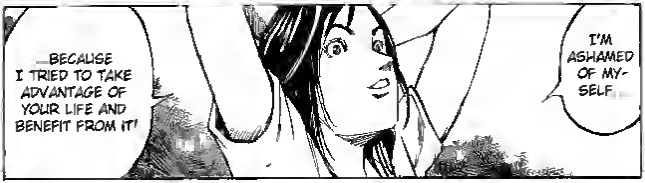
IT WAS ON THIS BASE-BALL FIELD THAT YOU WON THE DECISIVE ENCOUNTER BETWEEN JAPAN AND AMERICA?
RIGHT HERE

THIS FIELD IS BEAUTIFUL!

OF COURSE!

YOU STILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT HERE, MRS TOME?

HNN...
NOW I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING ANYMORE!


I'M ASHAMED OF MYSELF...
...BECAUSE I TRIED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR LIFE AND BENEFIT FROM IT!

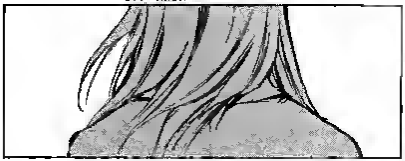
SFX: RUSH

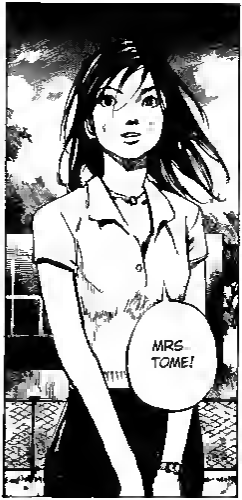
SUCH A THING, YOU CAN DO IT AFTER I'M DEAD.

NO!
I'LL NEVER DO IT...

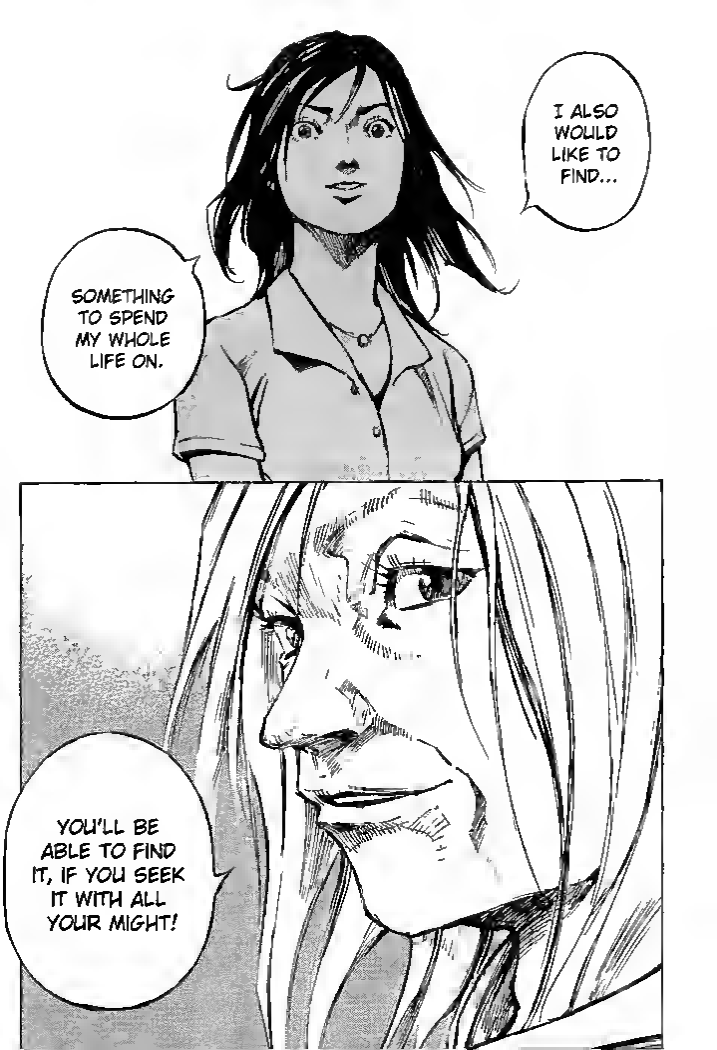
BECAUSE I HAVE THE FEELING THAT IT COULD EVEN RUIN THE MEMORIES OF MY GRAND-MOTHER.
THAT BALL.. PUT IT ON HARUKA'S TOMB
THAT IS THE PROOF THAT SHE HAS FOUGHT
COME, LET'S EAT SOMETHING BEFORE THE BOYS GET HERE!
I THANK YOU!
YES!

SFX RUSH





BECAUSE IT EXISTS.
YOU DEDICATED
ALL YOUR LIFE TO THIS SPORT!
AND I'M NOT DONE YET.


I ALSO WOULD LIKE TO FIND...
SOMETHING TO SPEND MY WHOLE LIFE ON.
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FIND IT, IF YOU SEEK IT WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT!

SFX: RUSH

*1945
BUT THE PEOPLE HAD AN OPEN MIND. ALTHOUGH THEY WERE POOR, THEY HAD THE GENEROSITY TO ACCEPT EACH INDIVIDUAL FOR WHAT THEY WERE.
JAPAN LOST THE WAR IN THE 20TH YEAR OF THE SHOWA ERA*.

WOMEN STARTED TO ACT, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY WHICH THAT PERIOD HAD TO OFFER.

MAYBE...
I'LL TRY
TO COMMIT
MYSELF IN
A BALL
SPORT.

「鉄腕ガール」感想・意見はモーニング2001年51号、52号、2002年1号、4・5合併号から10本に掲載された作品を収録しました。
この作品に対するご意見・ご感想をお寄せ下さい。
また、単行本にまとめて欲しい作品がありましたらお知らせ下さい。

〒112-8001 東京都文京区音羽2-12-21
講談社 モーニング編集部 「モーニングKC係

鉄腕ガール 9

2002年2月22日 第1刷発行
定価はカバーに表示してあります

著者 高橋ツトム

講談社

発行者 五十嵐佳之
発行所 株式会社講談社
〒112-8001 東京都文京区音羽
電話 編集部 東京(03)3945-9155
販売部 東京(03)5395-3608
印刷所 [illegible]
製本所 [illegible]
Printed in Japan

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モーニングKC 603 ISBN4-06-328442-X
NDC726.1 190p 18cm

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発行 集英社
ALIVE
高橋ツトム 単行本全1巻発売中
発行 集英社
2002年映画[ALIVE]公開決定
原作:高橋ツトム×監督:北村龍平
http://www.napalmfilms.com/alive.html
生と死